## Patent Claims

- 1. Nucleic acid sequences coding for proteolytic enzymes in the form of specific proteases
- 5 characterized by the fact that

the nucleic acid sequences are derived from the coldness-adapted fragilariopsis cylindrus marine diatom and code for a calpain-7-protease according to SEQ ID No.1 or for a zinc metalloprotease according to SEQ ID No. 2 or for functional variants of both proteases or that they are formed as fragments with at least 8 nucleotides thereof.

- The nucleic acid sequences in accordance with claim 1, characterized by the fact that the nucleic acid sequences are formed as DNA or RNA, preferably as double-stranded DNA.
- The nucleic acids in accordance with claim 1 or 2, characterized by the fact that the nucleic acid sequences are contained in vectors, preferably in
  expression vectors.
  - 4. The use of nucleic acid sequences in accordance with claim 3 for the expression or hyper-expression of the calpain-7-protease and/o zinc metalloprotease enzymes in host organisms.

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- 5. Polypeptides corresponding to the nucleic acid sequences in accordance with claim 1 or 2 which consist of amino acid sequences coded with the nucleic acid sequences according to SEQ ID No. 1 and SEQ ID No. 2, as functional variants thereof or a fragments thereof with at least 6 amino
- 30 acids.
  - 6. The use of the calpain-7-protease and zinc metalloprotease enzymes

in accordance with claim 1 for therapeutic purposes.

- 7. The use of the calpain-7-protease and zinc metalloprotease enzymes in accordance with claim 1 for purification purposes of proteinaceous contaminations.
- 8. The use of polypeptides in accordance with claim 5 for therapeutic purposes.
- 10 9. The use of polypeptides in accordance with claim 5 for purification purposes of proteinaceous contaminations.

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